

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTIA 01272 142009Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

IO-13 /074 W

-----150124Z 037913 /64

R 141929Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3440

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 1272

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PE, BL, CI

SUBJECT: BOLIVIAN CORRIDOR: NEGOTIATIONS AT STANDSTILL

REF: SANTIAGO 1179

1. EMBOFF REB. 14 ASKED FONMINISTRY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING LT.COL. (ARMY) ERNESTO VIDELA ABOUT EXCHANGE OF PRESIDENTIAL LETTERS ON THE BOLIVIAN CORRIDOR (REFTEL AND WHERE THE NEGOTIATIONS STOOD. VIDELA HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR LONG RANGE PLANNING OF CHILEAN POSITION, AND APPARENTLY ALSO HAS AN IMPORTANT OPERATIONAL ROLE ON THE CORRIDOR ISSUE.

2. VIDELA SAID THAT PINOCHET IN HIS LETTER HAD INTENDED TO SHOW THE GOC'S CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO WORKING OUT A SOLUTION TO BOLIVIA'S PROBLEM, EVEN THOUGH THERE WAS LITTLE ROOM FOR INITIATIVE NOW. THE GOC HAD MADE CLEAR TO BOLIVIA THAT A CORRIDOR AT THE ORTHER BORDER WITH PERU AND BOLIVIA WAS THE ONLY SOLUTION CHILE COULD ACCEPT

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IT COULD NOT ACCEPT AN ENCLAVE FURTHER SOUTH, OR A CORRIDOR CUTTING ITS TERRITORY INTO TWO PARTS. PINOCHET'S EMPHASIS ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY VIA THE MIXED COMMISSION, REALISTICALLY POINTED OUT THE BEST PATH FOR  
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PAGE 02 SANTIA 01272 142009Z

THE TWO COUNTRIES TO PURSUE AT THE MOMENT.

3. ASKED ABOUT WIRE SERVICE SPECUALATION ON LEASING A CORRIDOR, VIDELA SAID THE IDEA HAD BEEN CONSIDERED ALONG WITH OTHERS, BUT HAD BEEN REJECTED. IT COULD BE DONE LEGALLY, BUT IN FACT PERU WOULD REACT EXPOLSIVELY.

4. VIDELA OPINED THAT THE APPOINTMENT OF BOLIVIAN MANFREDO KEMP AS A TRAVELING NEGOTIATOR WAS A GOOD IDEA. KEMP COULD KEEP IN TOUCH AT THE WORKING LEVEL, THUS AVOIDING THE ATTENTION THAT INEVITABLY IS AROUSED WHEN FONMINISTERS GET INVOLVED. VIDELA BLAMED LIMA FOR THE IMPASSE BUT SAID BOTH COUNTRIES ARE INTENT ON AVOIDING FRICTION.  
BOYATT

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009